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Finding the way
Navigation tools depend on user knowledge.
See story on page 2 and 3.

Share the love
See editorial on page 6.

Helping Indigenous
Youth Hub expands outreach programming.
See story on page 8.

Backlit by the sun, a red squirrel appears to be eating on a branch. Area photographer Tammy Nash said she captured this photo on a drive up to Algonquin Park. /Submitted by Tammy Nash

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Familiarity is key to outdoors navigation

STEVE GALEA
Special to *County Life*

Writer Steve Galea uses a compass and GPS, practicing how to use the two tools together, which pays off when you really need it to. /Photo by Jenn Watt

About 25 years ago, on the night before opening day of waterfowl season, I showed the hunters at our duck camp my new handheld GPS.

A couple of them snickered and teased me about having a new toy. Then someone verbalized what everyone was thinking, "Why do you need one of those here?"

He reasoned that each of us had hunted on that river and its marshes since we were kids. He noted that all of us knew every landmark, back bay, and channel – and the duck blinds they contained – like the back of our hands. We had boated or canoed to and from them, often in the dark, countless times. He was absolutely correct. But he had forgotten one thing. And the next morning, that thing happened.

When we gathered at the docks an hour before sunrise, we found the river fogged in, a frequent occurrence in late September there. As we gazed into the impenetrable, swirling grey veil, a brief discussion ensued. For we had been here before. We knew the frustration of puttering blindly in a fog that cloaked the watery mile between those docks and our duck blinds– and each had at, one time or another, run our boats in circles, ending up far from where we thought we were. Once, a member of our group had even run aground.

In the end, the bravado won out. My cousin pointed his arm in the direction of the marsh we were hunting and said, "Just keep a straight course that way."

I raised my eyebrows because I knew that a straight course in the fog gets turned by weed beds, current and subtle steering mistakes. And so they did.

So, having marked the waypoint of my blind and route there on an earlier occasion, I turned on my GPS and navigated while my friend drove and put his faith in me.

Fifteen minutes later, I directed Ron to cut the motor. He looked at me skeptically. But when the fog shifted, the dark outline of our duck blind was 40 feet away. So, we set up decoys and prepared for the hunt.

I still smile every time I remember the sounds of those other outboards mired in wild rice. By the time the fog cleared, and they made it to their blinds, Ron and I were well on our way to a limit each.

Needless to say, by next duck season almost everyone had a GPS. The next time we ran into fog, I'd like to say everyone made it through without incident. But that was not the case. My boat made it. The others had a much harder time. You see, I was the only one who actually took the time to read and understand my GPS's manual and, most importantly, practice using the darn thing.

That is the point of this article. It's not enough to have the gear you need. You also need to know how to use it. And nowhere is that truer than in outdoors navigation.

I won't get into the details of how to use your GPS or map and compass (even if you carry a GPS, you should have a map and compass as a back up). There are manuals, books and YouTube videos that explain these things quite well. In fact, learning how to use any of these

see *TOOLS* page 3

County Life

The following inserts are being distributed with County Life this week:

Canadian Tire *
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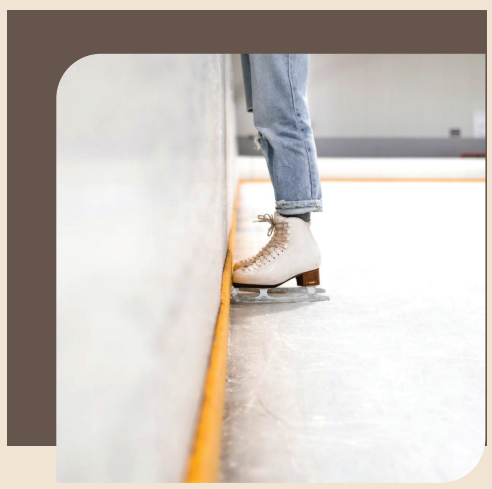

Visit www.dysartetal.ca/calendar to register and view available dates.
Check out our Family Day sessions!

Tools are only as effective as the user

from page 2

things isn't really the hard part. Remembering how to use them when you actually need them is. Being proficient with either GPS or map and compass is primarily a matter of familiarization and repetition. Think of it this way: If you were handed a brand-new TV remote and someone quickly showed you how to use it and then the next time you picked it up was a year later, how much would you remember? I guarantee, I'd be fumbling with buttons.

A GPS or compass is like any tool. The more you use it, the more skill and faith you have in it and your abilities. I'm fairly competent with a GPS and a map and compass.

Even so, every time I don't pick my GPS for a month or so, I need to re-familiarize myself with the best way of using the key features, like marking, finding, and entering waypoints, and then setting up routes to them. And taking advantage of the bells and whistles too.

It's not difficult to re-familiarize myself with the unit after short lapses. But I can't imagine how frustrating it might be if I only picked that unit up every hunting season, and even then only used it sparingly.

Last season, I asked a friend when was the last time he used the GPS he had in his pack. He told me two hunting seasons prior. If the way he fumbles with his cell phone is any indication, he might as well have been carrying a stone.

Don't be that guy. Using a map and compass and a handheld GPS unit should be second nature to anyone who spends time off the beaten path.

The good news is they are fun to use and are actually useful throughout the year. Among other things, I use mine to find ice fishing spots in winter and portages, backwoods lakes, morel patches and turkey spots in the spring. In summer, I mark locations of berry patches, boat landing and fishing honey holes. In fall, it's for locating duck blinds and tree stands in the dark, as well as grouse cover and places where deer sign abounds. And in each hunting season my GPS tells me definitively when legal shooting time begins and ends too.

And sometimes I just like to take them out to explore unfamiliar places.

The point is, if you practice using these tools year-round, you'll never have to worry or second-guess yourself when you need them most. And that's a good feeling.

To find out more see www.ontariofamilyfishing.com.

GPS devices are king

Cell phones with GPS and compass apps can do these things too, but I'd rather have a dedicated handheld GPS. They are more rugged, water resistant and have longer battery life, especially in the cold. And, if your GPS batteries do fail, all you need to do is replace them with a pair of extra batteries, which you should carry with you anyway.

Free fishing Feb. 19 to 21

Don't forget Ontario Family Fishing weekend.

Ontario's first Family Fishing weekend of 2022 takes place Feb. 19 to 21.

Fishing is free to all participants between 18 and 64. (It is always free to youth under18 and adults 65 and over.) Participants must abide by Ontario Conservation Fishing license limits, found in the Ontario Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary (www.ontario.ca/document/ontario-fishing-regulations-summary.) Participants must carry a government issued photo ID that states your name and date of birth.

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ADVERTORIAL

A CELEBRATION OF COLOUR

Haliburton Home Hardware to feature local artists in innovative project

by Martha Perkins

Photo credit: Karley Gazley

As a marquetry artist, Kevin Dunlop created magic with varying shades of brown.

Using only tiny slivers of natural wood as his palette, he pieced together richly detailed landscapes and portraits.

"I never had the luxury of being able to work with a complete colour wheel," he says. "I had to take what was put in front of me, which gave me the opportunity for original thought. I might not have had many colours but I could get a density. A certain grain pattern could make it feel light and airy; a different grain pattern could make it feel heavy and oppressive."

People wandering through the paint aisles at Haliburton Home Hardware will soon be able to appreciate Dunlop's talents. Not only will he be the first artist profiled in the new Colour of the Month series but, as one of the store's paint advisors, he's also helping home renovators navigate the hundreds of colour choices available to them.

Dunlop started working at the store's paint department in November. He'd often meet his former Studio Tour customers and realized he had a perfect showcase to enhance customers' appreciation of the deep talent pool of artists and artisans who call Haliburton County home. "I I believe our customers would like to know what local Haliburton artists have to say about colour."

He came up with Colour of the Month: he would approach local artists and ask them to choose a colour that intrigued them. To illustrate what they loved about that colour, the artist's work would be on display in a four-foot-by-eight-foot space in the paint department. "For instance, maybe a potter would pick colours out of the glaze of their pottery. It would be an opportunity to show how customers could use wall colours to impact their own spaces."

His supervisor smiled at the suggestion. The store's owner, Dan Moulton, had just mentioned to the supervisor that he wanted the store to highlight the Haliburton School of the Arts in some way. (Moulton has also recently made a $25,000 donation to the beloved Haliburton Highlands Art Center Foundation).

One of the things that excites Dunlop is being able to introduce customers to how much creative talent can be found throughout the county. "I hope we'll be helping the artists, especially the new ones, to give them some exposure and introduce them to some potential clients and sales. We're going to open it up to participants if they want to sell their work; we'd handle that for them."

Why colour matters

Several years ago, the Echo's arts columnist, Marion Hare, wrote about how colour choices in our homes was an often undervalued expression of our creativity. We might not be able to paint, but we could use paint to tell a story.

Dunlop agrees.

"I think our response to colour is an innate human reaction; our draw to colour is intuitive and instinctive," he says. However, many people lack the confidence in choosing colours — including which of the 40 shades of white that are available to them. "I'm hoping that by having artists come in and showing people different possibilities, it might tweak customers' imagination to look in other directions. I want to be able to help them express themselves."

Some customers come into Dunlop's department knowing exactly what they want. Others appreciate the way he's able to coax ideas out of them.

"We really try to get the mood and the feel for the people who come in," he says. "It can be daunting to narrow down what they might want.

"We'll spend some time with colour chips. You can get some pretty strong emotional reactions from some colours, whether it be negative or positive. This helps me to start understanding their palettes and what they might be looking for. If people are painting their basement, we talk about the light that might or might not be down there, and how you can choose colours that might give that room the sense of light that it's missing."

Technology can help, too. Recently, an expectant mother came into the store. She brought with her the baby blanket that she planned to use in the nursery. Dunlop was able to scan the blanket and come up with a pink paint that matched the blanket perfectly.

As much as he wants to help customers understand colour better, Dunlop says that when it comes to their colour preferences, there's no wrong answer. "There's just trusting what feels right to you."

To schuss or to glide?

JANET TRULL
Special to County Life

Skiers Nolan Vermeer, from left, Roger Trull, Sienna Vermeer and writer, Janet Trull stand at the top of the hill at Sir Sam's Ski and Ride, which overlooks Eagle Lake. /Submitted by Janet Trull

Winter gets a bad rap. What's not to love? No bugs. No grass to cut. Snow covers the weeds in the garden and all the derelict junk in the yard. Dog poo? What dog poo?

I can walk on the lake. I can hibernate with a book. And I can ski.

As a downhill skier and a cross-country skier, I think about which is best. Truly, they are opposites. Downhill skiing makes me feel like a kid again. The view from the top of the hill. The speed. The poutine. Extra points for all that. It is also a great sport for balance. A bonus I appreciate more as I age.

I learned to ski back in the days of the poma lift and the T-bar. Terrifying ways to get to the top of the hill. My first skis were wooden boards with runaway straps attached to the boots. Boots that were brutally uncomfortable. Times have changed. Lifts and equipment have improved. And I must admit that I prefer my wide downhill skis to my skinny cross-country skis. They seem wobbly in comparison. I don't trust them on the steep part of the trail, especially if there is a curve at the bottom.

Cross-country skiing transports me into sheltered glades and along quiet forest trails. A world where deer step silently and birds gather among the cedars. Great clumps of snow hang on tree limbs and sometimes drop down, surprising me and cooling me off. Oh, that's another opposite. Cross-country skiing is sweaty work. At the ski hill, you are much more likely to suffer frozen fingers and toes.

The ski hill has an inviting community. Long time members have been skiing together for decades. From toddlers to teenagers to grandparents, there is a special magic at the ski hill that brings families and friends closer together.

What is different? Almost everything. Cross-country is a better cardio workout. Downhill has a spectator element. As you ride up the chairlift, you watch the racers and the jumpers and the boarders. You see beginners working on their snowplows and toddlers learning with the rope method. Cross-country has a simplicity to it. You can do it alone, or with friends. Downhill is more expensive. Cross-country has warm-up huts where you can snack on homemade granola bars and sip from wine skins. Downhill has chalets. And the chalets have bars. With specialty drinks like the Ski-Jump; hot chocolate and peppermint schnapps. Don't ask me to choose which is better. I cannot.

Well groomed trails are key for both sports. Groomers are winter's superheroes. Whether you are skiing in mashed potatoes, the sticky, heavy snow when the temperature hovers around zero, or deep powder, or corn snow or sugar, you have to appreciate the corduroy of fresh grooming.

Both types of skiing are exhilarating in different ways. I sleep like a baby after a day on the trails or the slopes. And at the end of the season, when the snow is melting behind my skis, I feel satisfied that I made the best of a Highlands winter.

Heart to heart, don'tcha know

ROSES ARE RED, violets are … well, we all know Valentine's Day has come and gone, but ol' Maybelle wanted to talk to you about it, anyway. These are talks we have, don'tcha know. I just imagine that you're here with me as I'm writing, rolling your eyes, nodding sometimes, like if we were really together.

Well, this year smack dab on Feb. 14, my good friends and I got together at my cottage. You know them – Beanpole Starkman, Sybil Beaucannon Hughes, Twindle Mumbly, Vilma Yuccch and her significant smother, Officer Stanley Penelope McBottom. We call him McB for short.

Maybelle's **Fireside stories**

We came together on this day that's all about love and chubby cupids … oh, and chocolate, can't forget chocolate … because we needed to feel and share some love more than ever. Why, with so much division going on in the world, and even here in Lake WhaddayathinkImean – folks disagreeing on issues, some heatedly – why, we just wanted to be with each other knowing and trusting. That's the big thing, TRUSTING, that even if we were to disagree on things, it would still be a safe, warm, loving place to be.

"You know," Twindle said, sounding like his mouth was full of marbles as usual, "used to be every flu season, like clockwork, folks would come into my store sneezing and coughing, and guess who got sick?"

"YOU did!" we all piped in.

"And we took turns cooking and bringing you food and medicine," I said.

"And then we'd all take turns getting sick when it went through the whole village," Beanpole said. "It was like playing musical chairs without the fun, the music or the chairs."

"But since we've all been doing our Lone Ranger mask routine I haven't been sick in two years!" Twindle said.

"Me neither," said Vilma.

"Or me," we all piped in.

"And, I've saved all kinds of money by wearing a mask," Vilma said, her big blue eyes smiling up at McB. "Haven't had to buy a new lipstick since 2020."

"Why, I remember the first time I saw Mumford Tindall lower his mask, after that first quarantine we all went through," I said. "Why with all that red wine he'd been drinking, his teeth turned PURPLE!"

"I love purple," boasted Sybil in her still-lingering British accent. "Wonder how many other folks are walking around with purple teeth we can't see?"

"Well, a lot of people don't want to wear a mask," Twindle said.

"It really is a nuisance," Beanpole said.

"I think what they really don't want is being told that they have to," McB said.

"I can see that," Twindle said. "But, then they've got to see what makes me feel comfortable, too. It's got to work both ways if we're ever going to mend this great divide."

"Chocolates, anyone?" Sybil said, passing a big heart-shaped box of candies around the room.

"Yes, please," I said. "And while we're at it, how about we think about love, not just for each other, but, you know, the essence of it. Let's just sit and feel love right now, right in our hearts."

"Oh, Maybelle," Beanpole said, rolling his eyes.

He grabbed three pieces of chocolate from the box, popped one in his mouth, put the other two on the table beside him and sat quietly savouring its sweetness, settling into a warm fuzzy feeling.

"I feel it, Maybelle, it's a nice feeling," Vilma said.

"Now, let's send love out to the whole community, to everyone."

"Yes, it really is the only way we can mend this division we're seeing," Sybil said.

"I don't want to feel angry at somebody just because we don't see eye to eye. And I don't want them to be angry with me, either. Instead, it's time for us to see heart to heart."

"Yes, heart to heart, Sybil, dear," I said. "Heart to heart."

Maybelle's Fireside Stories is written by Jerelyn Craden whose novel, "Vessie Flamingo Outshining the Moon," and "Maybelle's Cure for What Ails You" are available at amazon.com.

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Love goes beyond Valentine's Day

I HEARD THE radio host say, "If you still support Valentine›s Day, you are a lemming to capitalist holidays and Hallmark."

While I think this is truly a hilarious statement, let's unpack this. Valentine's is behind us, and the seasonal décor has shifted from pink and red to green and orange (or Easter eggs if you are REALLY eager … let's not get carried away.)

From what I understand, people are not pro-Valentine's Day because they believe that love should not be isolated to one day in the spotlight. This may be true.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Special to County Life

In all honesty, if you really do love someone, you probably should let them know – even in some small way – that you love them each and every day. This can come in the form of doing dishes, making a nice dinner, or just saying you think they are great. Love takes commitment, compromise, common ground, and compassion. It's not always easy, and it's not for everyone.

Love is hard. If you are human, you've likely been hurt by love. As someone who has always tried to tell the cold and honest truth, I can vouch for this: love hurts.

Here is the age old question: if something hurts, is it worth it?

There are so many things that make this world tick, but if you really get down to the nitty-gritty of things, the core of so many of these disputes, dysfunction, and disagreement, is love. We love people, places, ideas, themes, and concepts; we just can't let go. Love is at the heart of challenge … so is it worth it to love?

Do you remember when you were a kid, when the sun was warm and the grass was soft and you were blowing soapy bubbles on the front lawn? Do you remember that perfect bubble? The one that floated through the air in a way that made time stop. That bubble that captured every colour, and you watched it bob and get carried by the warm breeze; holding the sunset in its reflection. Sometimes you would safely catch it with a bubble wand before it hit the blades of grass. Other times, it would land with a shocking pop. Every so often, it would float away; held together and eager to venture forth.

Sometimes, I picture love like that bubble. Every experience with love is unique, a little wonky, a bit shaky, but colourful, captivating, it makes time stop, and … it's yours. Sometimes, you can hang on to love. Sometimes it pops. Sometimes it floats away. But no matter what, it is beautiful.

It is important to note that love can come in many forms. Love comes in all shapes, sizes, and colours. Sometimes, love can look like Meg Ryan and Tom Hanks in literally any movie from the 1990s, and other times it can look like you remembering to water a plant that needs a little love. Sometimes love looks like a slow dance in the kitchen on a Saturday morning, and other times it looks like a glass of wine with your best friend on a particularly hard Monday night. Sometimes love looks like time with a person who makes you light up from the inside out, other times it's time to yourself that you've been craving from your core. Love comes in many forms.

Love is all around us, whether we like it or not. It would be very hard to go through life being anti-love. To be human is to love. My hope for you, as a fellow human, is that you find something you love. I hope you find a certain food that makes you feel like the world has stopped when you eat it. I hope you see a vision in your life that has made you feel like dancing. I hope you have heard a song that makes your heart skip a beat. I hope you have felt a hug that has made you feel like you are home.

Valentine's is one day that kickstarts our reminder to love. Sometimes, in this fast paced and whirring world around us, we forget. Let's take this date as a reminder to show love; to our partners, our friends, our family, ourselves.

Love is all around us, and it is beautiful and whimsical and unpredictable and real. So, yes, perhaps Valentine's is on its way out, but love is not dead. Love is very much alive, so let's celebrate it.

Top 10 carnival rides that never gained popularity

WHEN WE think of carnivals we automatically think of cotton candy, games, stuffed animals and all the rides. But what we don't think of are the rides that never gained popularity for one reason or another. They are:

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Bumper cars with $500 deductible.
2. The roller toaster: just like roller coasters, but with a really large oven.
3. The bouncy castle featuring ceiling fans.
4. The reciprocal shooting arcade – where the stuffed animals shoot back.
5. Windex's House of Dirty Mirrors. Clean them or you'll never leave!
6. The House of Oarers: A ride where you pay to row a boat that has an outboard that won't start.
7. The Tilt-A-Whirl/Coffee shop
8. The Tunnel of "Can we just be friends?"
9. The Cat-a-pult: With real cats!
10. The Carousel: A ride in which you must endure a whole carousel of family vacation slides.

Rhymes with love

Of all the many themes in art
Or music, cinema
Greatest books and chivalry
Comedic hem and haw.
Love's the motivating force
Which spins a compass hard.
Leads each soul to poetry
And strums us like a bard.

Best to follow gut and turn
Where kindred spirits wait
Hesitation kills a chance
And Valentine's is great!
Tell or show or secretly
Go represent your heart
Card or chocolate cherry box
Just saying hi's a start.

Don't expect a miracle.
Brave patience is the game
Hit or miss, try thinking less
And you might fan a flame.
I had luck and aced it
Found a couplet rhyme for me.
Took a try or three so now
I pen this happily.

Deborah J Reed

Seen swan
Algonquin Highlands photographer Tammy Nash spotted this swan on a photo excursion.

Take my cat. Please.

Woke up slowly Thursday morn.
Tiptoed first to cold wood-stove
Cat stayed curled up in her chair
Lost in dreams, some tale
she wove.

Lit the tinder, kindling, log
Soon our little house was snug.
Still the tabby twitched in place
Stretched like some
extended slug.

Unlike her to stay asleep
She's the one whose belly rules.
Even coffee-maker's song
Failed to trigger breakfast drools.

Pulled out pan for omelette.
Opened fridge: fresh
spinach, eggs.
Kitchen noises just like these:
'Round our feet she mews,
she begs.

But she snored in fantasy
Hunt-catch triumph,
summer play
Sun on both ears, cobwebs too
Chasing, winning every day.

After all my cooking din
Sizzle, clunking, clatter, swish.
Meal was ready, so I slipped
Salmon Whiskas into dish.

Bolt upright in panic mode
Leaving airborne fluff and fur
Cat ran screaming to her bowl.
Like we'd been ignoring her.

And before our forks and knives
Even touched our warm
first food
She'd inhaled her fishy fare.
Marched right back with attitude.

Deborah J Reed

Road

Moonglow flowing along the
river of Road,
sculpting waves of Snow, bathing
the bones of birches,
clustered on the side of the Road,
scraps of their flesh dangling
from their trunks, or peeling
in scrolls.
I wonder how many layers,
weather and time can strip away,
'till the birches begin to bleed,
their skin, thin as rice paper,
smooth as this moonlight, that
soothes their wounds,
as I wade through Snow to graze
the terrain of their trunks with
my fingers,
feeling the grooves of the
carvings, that look like eyes,
lingering on the fissure that splits
one of the trunks,
its bark, grey, all of the layers of
skin stripped away,
as I hold a scroll that curls in
my palm,
wondering about all the layers
people keep hidden from others,
or maybe themselves,
my eyes flitting up to rest on the
giant face of Moon,
only a splinter of light missing,
at its edge,
ripened almost to fullness, before
it begins to wane again,
the same missing splinter of light,
all that remains,
as the rest of the Moon burrows
in darkness, 'till it blooms again.
I leave the birches be, to gleam in
the moonlight,
like pillars of an ancient temple,
that's no longer there,
humbled by their nobility, and
their ability to withstand the
elements and time.
I wind my way along the river of
Road, that dips and curves,
Moon hanging so low, it nicks
the tips of pines, their spines, stiff,
like mine,
their branches, drooping and
bending beneath the burden
of Snow,
frozen like ghosts, beneath this
spectral light of Moon,
that cradles the darkness,
illuminating the starkness of Snow,
that cloaks the Road,
and limbs of trees, arching over
me, as the Road swerves,
my feet reaching the part that's
so steep, the Road forces them to
slow their steps.
I rely on moonlight to lead me,
'till I reach the bottom of the hill,
Moon rising higher up in Sky,
that's speckled with freckles
of stars,
glinting so bright, they force my
feet to stop, mid-way down
the hill,
just to gawk up at this winter
Sky, inhale this Air,
that freezes my cheeks and
stiffens my bones,
but somehow, standing here,
alone, just me and the Road,
I feel less so,
surrounded by a forest of trees,
huddling against the cold,
moonlight cascading along this
river of Road, sweeping me along
in its current,
its light piercing me in a different
way than Sun,
seeping deeper into all my layers,
sleeping beneath my skin,
like the Lake, beyond this forest,
that flanks the Road,
sealed in ice, cloaked in Snow,
moonglow stroking its
frozen soul.

Sylvie Kalenda

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Indigenous supports coming to the youth hub

AMANDA DUNCOMBE-LEE
Special to *County Life*

Outreach programming and supports for local Indigenous youth, allies and supporters is coming to the Youth Hub in Haliburton.

Haliburton's Ashley Wilson is a student in the Onajigawin Indigenous Services program at Confederation College. She has mixed European and Anishinaabe ancestry, belongs to the Curve Lake First Nations reserve, and has a practicum placement at the Youth Hub and its affiliate agency, Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents.

In the coming weeks, Wilson plans to work with Point and Time staff and their Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to provide Indigenous teachings and supports in a culturally safe environment, both virtually and in person at the Youth Hub. Planned activities include making traditional food, traditional knowledge teachings, and land-based learning. Indigenous self-identification is not required to participate in the activities and allies and supporters are welcome to participate.

The Seven Grandfather teachings will be incorporated in the educational aspects of programming at the Youth Hub. These teachings – wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, truth, and humility – are a series of principles or values that help guide one on their journey towards "living the good life" or "mino bimaadiziwin" in Anishinaabemowin and our relationships with all living things.

"I think teaching the truth is a really important place to start because that creates understanding and awareness and allows people to comfortably be who they are," Wilson said.

Point in Time is also part of a local mental health and substance use working group that includes members from the John Howard Society, the Canadian Mental Health Association - Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge, and Community Living Trent Highlands. The group aims to reduce stigma surrounding substance misuse, and to help ensure safety and respect through education. Wilson is trying to find individuals with lived experience to help bridge the gap between service provider and those needing the service.

Wilson hopes that her work will help reduce the stigma that Indigenous communities still face. "Learning the truth is an important first step in reconciliation. Creating an awareness about the ongoing trauma that Indigenous communities face [helps] to break down barriers and create understanding. I recognize that the truth is difficult to hear, but without it, it is impossible to move forward with supports that benefit."

"Ashley is enthusiastic and passionate about her work, and we are very pleased to be able to offer programming and outreach to First Nation, Metis and Inuit. We are also intentionally encouraging non-Indigenous community participation in these programs to work towards helping build local efforts towards Truth and Reconciliation," Marg Cox, executive director said.

To learn more about Indigenous outreach at Point in Time, contact Ashley Wilson at ashleywilson@pointintime.ca.

The Haliburton Youth Hub is a one-stop shop for youth services and supports and is co-created with youth, for youth. It is part of a province-wide network of Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario and is affiliated with Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents. To find out more about the Haliburton Youth Hub, email haliburtonhub@pointintime.ca or call 705-457-2727.

Legion Events

Branch 129 Haliburton
Tuesday night: Dart League starting at 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bingo doors open at 5 p.m.
Bingo starts at 7 p.m. with a $500 jackpot.
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Meat draw has five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m. Six tickets for $2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC.
Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards.

Saturdays: 4 p.m. draw – tickets are $1 each available from 2 p.m. and onwards.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at 705-457-2571, email rcl129@outlook.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome!

*** New club room hours:**
Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/ Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m . Fri. 3 to 7 p.m. and Sat. 3 to 6 p.m.

Schedule is subject to change without notice, so contact the Legion for updates.

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Tickets are now available for purchase 45 minutes prior to puck drop at the door.

February 19 @ 4:30 p.m.
vs Wellington Dukes

February 21 @ 2:30 p.m.
vs Lindsay Muskies

February 25 @ 7:30 PM
vs Toronto Patriots

Community Events

Send your event listing to
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Women of the Word,
a non-denominational women's bible study.
When: Wednesday mornings 9:15 to 11:45 a.m.
January to May.
Where: Lakeside Church - 9 Park Street Haliburton
What: Three study options available; 1. Genesis chapters three to 11, 2. First, Second and Third John, 3. A topical study by Drew Hunter "Made for Friendship". In person or online via Zoom. COVID regulations apply. Free childcare dependent upon resources. Cost $35 plus book – financial assistance available. Contact 705-457-2851 to register or for more information: www.mylakeside.ca.

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Rinks' renaissance

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, from left, announced the provincial's capital grant worth $162,000 to upgrade two rinks in the Municipality of Dysart et al with Deputy Mayor Pat Kennedy, Councillor John Smith, events and recreation co-ordinator Andrea Mueller, CAO Tamara Wilbee, West Guilford Recreation Centre Committee president Tanya Smith and members Randy Burch and Arlene Burch on Thursday, Feb. 3 at the West Guilford Recreation Centre in West Guilford. This money will be divided equally and used towards upgrades and repairs (new pad, boards and lighting to illuminate the entire playing surface) to the outdoor rinks in West Guilford and Harcourt, so it can provide hockey and skating in the winter, but also be used the rest of the year for pickleball, ball hockey and basketball. The funding was part of $46 million to support 186 municipalities, Indigenous communities and non-profit tourism, culture, sport and recreation organizations facing challenges related to COVID-19. This is part of the province's Community Building Fund worth $105 million./DARREN LUM Staff

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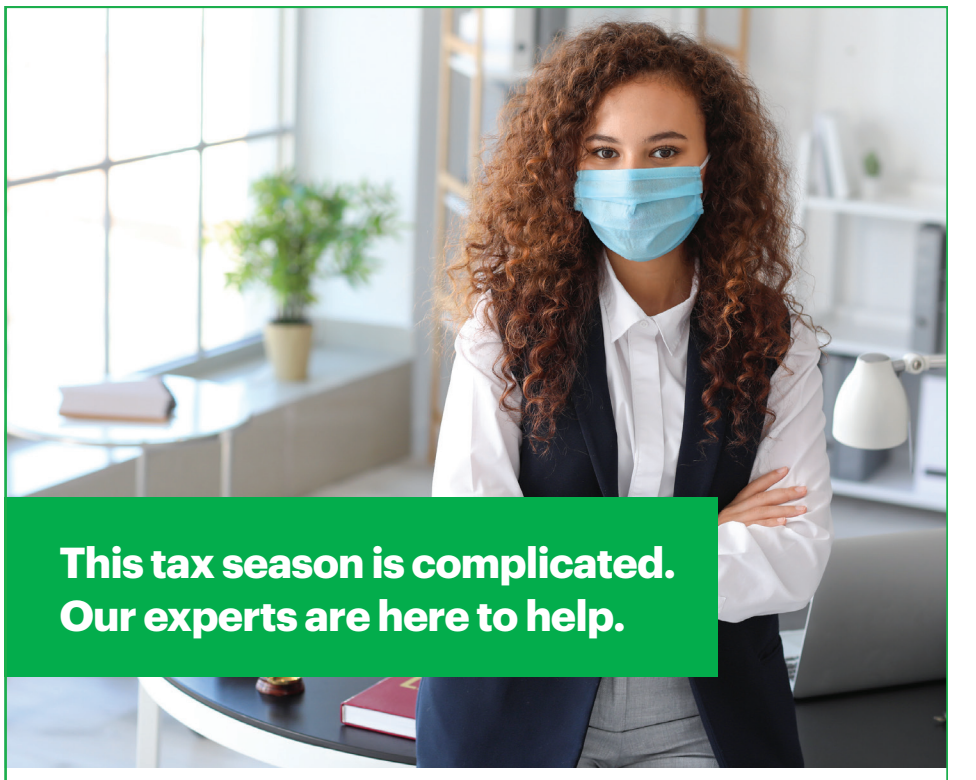
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From the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) to all other federal and provincial relief measures, our Tax Experts are here to help make things simple. We'll walk you through all 2021 tax changes and answer any questions you have about how COVID-19 benefits might affect your taxes this year.
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Local Landmark Mystery

Local landmark reveal: Atmo-sphere. Atmo-sphere, which which can found at the Sculpture Forest, located at 297 College Drive, was created by John McKinnon and installed in 2013. The granite for the sphere is from the McBain Quarries located just outside of Minden. The bench on the inside is created from western red cedar and the polished stone floor was created in McKinnon's studio in New Brunswick. The piece is designed to create a space for quiet reflection in a busy world. The hole in the roof is inspired by the Pantheon in Rome. Atmo-sphere is one of 43 sculptures found in the Haliburton Sculpture Forest. A visit to this unique outdoor art gallery is a great way to stay safely distanced, but totally connected. You can combine your visit to the sculpture forest with a hike on the Glebe Park trails and a visit to the nearby village of Haliburton. Photo and files by Thom Lambert.

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In January 2022, the Municipality of Dysart et al conducted a waste composition study to help us understand what materials are in household garbage and recycling.

We learned there are some items that cause confusion and are incorrectly being put in recycling.

These items go in the Garbage (never recycling):

Paper towel, tissue

Plastic Ziploc bags, other plastic film & bags

Plastic food pouches

Furnace filters

Clothes & textiles
Consider donating to charities and reuse centres

Plastic & wood clothes hangers
Metal clothes hangers go in scrap metal bin

Municipality of Dysart et al

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www.dysartetal.ca
705-457-1740

Local Landmark Mystery

The following are images of a local landmark. Try to guess what the landmark is and see in the next week's *County Life* for the reveal. Concept and images from Thom Lambert, who has informative posts about things to see and do in the Highlands through Myhaliburtonhighlands on Instagram. /Submitted by Thom Lambert

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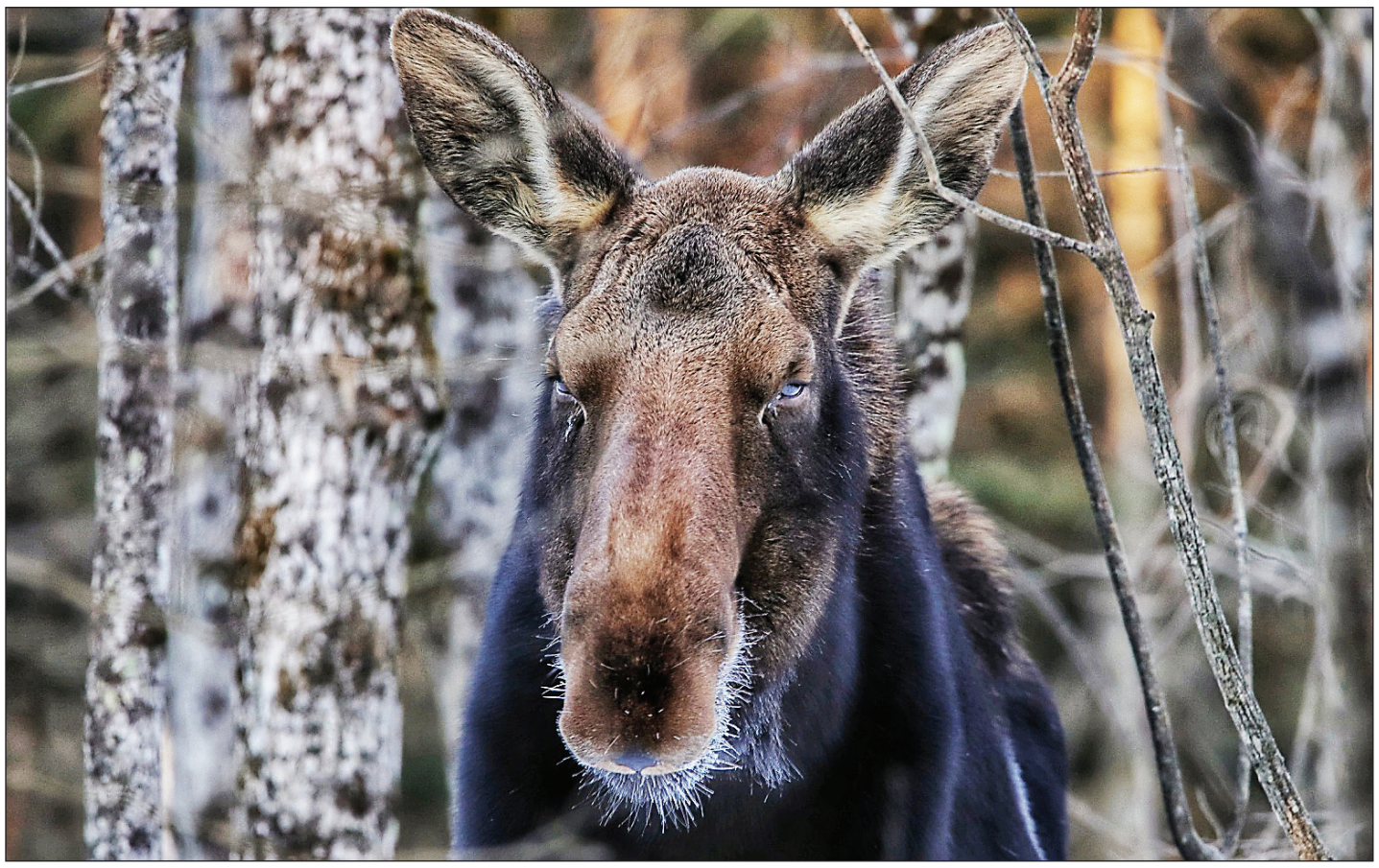
GARDENS OF HALIBURTON

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions, depicting life in the Highlands. Email darren@ haliburtonpress.com. Please, ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.



Area photographer June Krisko captured this cow moose on her property by Koshlong Lake on Jan. 9 after it had made an appearance seveal days before on a frigid day (on Jan. 3), with temperatures at negative 20 Celsius degrees. Krisko, who calls the photo *Moose In The Woods*, sells limited editions and signed prints and cards at the SIRCH Marketplace, Castle Antiques, Rails End Gallery and the Organic Times Emporium in Haliburton. Starting Feb. 11, she will be the "Artist Spotlight" at the SIRCH Marketplace for two weeks and will be featuring moose images. See her Moose Mondays slideshow video on her website at www.junekrisko.com. She will also be exhibiting her work at the POV exhibition at the Rails End Gallery held from Feb. 12 to April 2. /Submitted by June Krisko

Through the trees, area photographer Tammy Nash spotted a moose (with the formation of future antlers) feeding behind a snow covered pine tree in Algonquin Park.

Basking in the sunlight, an American goldfinch was captured by area photographer June Krisko on her property, located south of Haliburton by Koshlong Lake.

Area photographer Tammy Nash captured this nuthatch hanging on a branch.

Area photographer Tammy Nash captured this moose walking through the snow during a trip to Algonquin Park on Saturday, Feb. 5. Nash is a prolific photographer, capturing the wildlife in the Highlands and surrounding area.

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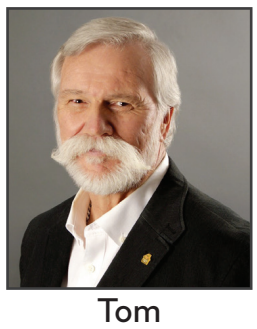

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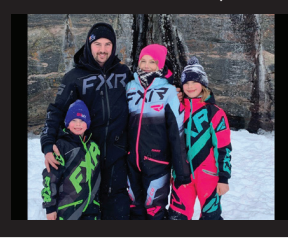

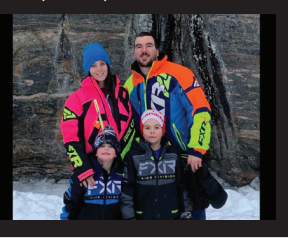

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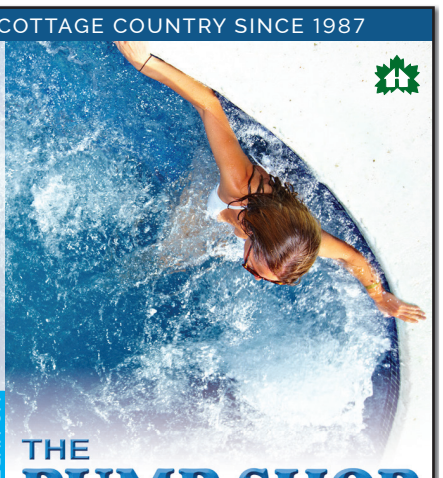

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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

WOMEN HELPING WOMEN
Breast cancer patients get a helping hand from revved up women snowmobile riders

HAVE WE GOT LETTERS
Readers weigh in on apshalt debate on paper and on-line

ON TO PROVINCIALS
The boys curling team at the high school is vying for top title in Ontario

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007 www.haliburtonecho.ca VOL. 124 NO. 6 $1.25 INCL. GST

Who's your idol?

SIRCH is on the lookout for Haliburton's next musical prodigy

STEVE GALEA
Special to the Echo

American Idol move over. Thanks to Betty Ujvari and the SIRCH fundraising committee, we now have a contest of our own. Haliburton County Idol promises to be everything that the popular television series is – but without Simon Cowell.

"We know we have a lot of great talent in the county and we were looking for a way to showcase it while, at the same time, raising the profile of SIRCH Community Services and Consulting," says Ujvari.

The singing contest is open to youth aged 11 to 19 and the prize package is nothing short of incredible. The winner gets to professionally record a three-song demo and experience an image makeover as well as a professional photo shoot. That three-song demo, by the way, will be added to Canoe FM's regular play list.

"This is an excellent opportunity for youth to find out a little about what it takes to make it in the music industry," Ujvari says. "And we expect it to be a lot of fun too."

The fun part, she says, starts with the fact that none of our judges will be anything like Simon Cowell, the caustic American Idol judge whom everyone loves to hate.

"Right now, we've got high school music teacher Tom Regina, and Guess Who frontman and Canoe FM deejay Carl Dixon on the panel. Each promises gentle but constructive crit-

See **Lots of** *page 4*

CASEY LESSARD/Echo

Where did I leave my map?

Bill Barbour was one of many following the path of the labyrinth near the volleyball courts in Head Lake Park Friday night. The labyrinth is one of three – two Cretan and one a copy of the Bayeux cathedral labyrinth - carved in the snow by Rails End Gallery executive director Laurie Jones and helpers Donna McCallum and Fay Wilkinson. "Never seen anything like this before," Barbour said. "We're new to the area, so we wanted to see what's going on. It was very good. I had fun."

Dysart gets tough on recycling

GREG HOEKSTRA
Staff Reporter

In coming years, the preservation of landfill space is expected to be one of the most pressing issues facing the whole of Haliburton County.

Already, Highlands East is facing a looming crisis, with several of their dumps expected to fill up by the end of the current council's four-year term.

In the neighbouring municipality of Dysart et al, municipal officials have also made landfill preservation a top priority for the coming decade, with one of the biggest initiatives being a mandatory recycling policy that was introduced last September.

Speaking on behalf of the previous council, Reeve Murray Fearrey says the push towards mandatory recycling was a necessary measure to ensure that Dysart's landfills aren't overburdened as the area continues to thrive and grow.

"We have a lot of potential development on the horizon, and we need to preserve as much space as we can in order to accommodate that," says Fearrey. "They're saying we have 15 years left [at the Haliburton site], but it won't be 15 years if we don't recycle and continue to have growth."

Though most of Dysart's municipal dumps have had recycling facilities on-site for upwards of 15 years, Fearrey says that many residents needed the extra push to change their old habits and begin using the facilities.

"The reason we made it mandatory is because we had such a terrible record of voluntary recycling. People were just not paying any attention or getting serious about it," he says. "We compared ourselves to all our neighbours and we were way behind."

The new policy was first implemented five months ago, and is already making an impact. Mark Brohm, manager of the Haliburton landfill site, says the initiative has resulted in a noticeable increase in the amount of recycling that is leaving the site. In fact, he says there has been

See **Municipality** *page 11*

Response to mandatory recycling has been postive thus far, but some users are still not sorting their trash before visiting municipal landfills.

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Price is plus HST

IRONDALE RIVER $695, 000

Indulge in peace and serenity with this stunning extensively renovated, open concept four season riverfront dream home or cottage getaway. Vaulted ceilings, windows with a view and white-washed pine walls, this welcoming space is filled with natural sunlight. Incredible sunset views lead to cozy evenings entertaining in the new gourmet kitchen or unwinding with a view in the soaker tub. There is plenty of room to accommodate guests with the den in use as a 3rd bedroom. Walkout to the deck and multiple seating areas will greet you with plenty of privacy and beautiful landscaping on this well treed lot.

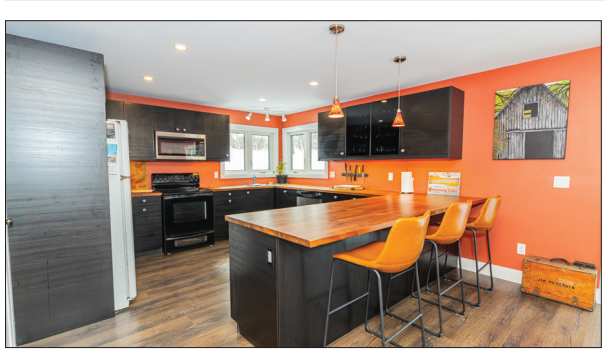
UNICORN ROAD $549,000

Your opportunity for a secluded, peaceful off grid Haliburton retreat is here! This 237 acres is the perfect destination to enjoy nature's natural beauty. Fantastic trails throughout the property. Nestled amongst the trees with a tranquil view of one of the many ponds, is a cute 22 x 22 cabin. The wood finishings throughout creates a warm and cozy feeling. Settle in and warm up in front of the wood burning stove. 24 x 24 detached garage is the ideal building to store all of your year round toys. Quick access to amenities in Haliburton Village and cell service throughout the property keeps you in the loop while enjoying your escape from the hustle and bustle.

KAWAGAMA LAKE $279,000

Stunning south views across the lake. This property has a fantastic shoreline of mixed sand/ gravel gradual entry to the water. Hydro is at the lot line and there is good cell service. This is easily accessible from either marina on the lake. Enjoy this affordable lot in the summer while you make your plans for your new cottage. Great fishing year-round and fantastic snowmobiling in the winter.

NEW LISTING

BEECH RIVER $1,190,000

Enjoy the tranquility of Beech river for swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking. Or take a minute to boat ride into Big Boshkung Lake, a 3 lake chain comprised of Big Boshkung, Little Boshkung and Twelve Mile Lake in Algonquin Highlands. This is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath with rough in for 3rd bathroom in the basement. 2540 sq ft finished and 1425 sq ft partially finished walkout basement. This home was built in 2017 with wood siding and energy efficient ICF foundation. This could be your year round home or cottage located in a fabulous area of fine homes and 175ft of waterfront. Open concept main floor with soaring cathedral ceilings in living room with expansive views and gorgeous 2 sided propane fireplace (waiting for your finishing touches on the fireplace). Large kitchen with room for all to join in. Dining area with 2 walk outs to a large deck. From the living room enter a lovely sitting room with another walk out to deck. Main floor bedroom with double closets and a full bathroom in the foyer complete this floor. Upstairs you will find 2 very large bedrooms with Juliette balconies, full bathroom and cozy loft family room with 2nd propane fireplace overlooking the living room with views to the waterfront. The partially finished basement has 2 walkouts and woodstove. Perfect to create your own "staycation". Fully enclosed with glass, the hot tub room has a 6-8 person hot tub (never used), with rough in for wet bar. Add a projection screen and pool table and you are set! In floor heating on all 3 floors, and on demand hot water. Take a stroll down to the waterfront where you will find a lovely sitting deck in the shade on the shoreline, or sit in the full sun on the dock. This home requires some finishings to complete for final occupancy and is being sold "as is where is" condition. Offer presentation 2:22pm February 22, 2022.